Health propaganda work amongst the Depressed Classes.

184. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the number of villages or rural areas or colonies of the depressed classes visited by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer of the State during the years 1101, 1102, 1103 and 1104;

(2) whether he has been giving them lectures or instructions on subjects dealing with the sanitation and public health ;

(3) whether he has taken steps to ascertain the progress of health in the several village areas of the depressed classes; and if so, what steps ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(1) The Pulaya Colony in Chalakkudi and the Nayadi Colonies at Kunnamkulam and Palayannur in 1101 and 1102. Not visited after they were handed over to the Protector of the Depressed Classes.

(2) No.

(3) Not aware of any separate village areas of the depressed classes.

Police officers on traffic duty.

185. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government kindly state:—

(a) whether they are aware that the Police head constables and constables on traffic regulation duty in the towns of Ernakulam, Mattancheri and Trichur are in the habit of receiving tips from the owners of buses plying within the limits of these towns ;

(b) whether they have made any enquiries with regard to the truth of the fact mentioned in part (a), i. e., about Police head constables and constables receiving tips—and if they have, what is the result of the enquiry in this matter ?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of paddy.

186. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the annual production of paddy in the State ;

(2) the approximate total consumption ;

(3) the period through which the paddy produced in the State will meet the requirements of the people ;

(4) the quantity of increase in the production, if any, during the last two years ;

(5) what arrangements are made to supply the wants ?

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Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(1) Twenty-one millions of *paras*.

(2) 33·6 millions of *paras*.

(3) For about seven months.

(4) There has been no appreciable increase.

(5) Steps are being taken to increase the area of cultivation and encourage intensive cultivation by improved methods and better manuring. Agricultural loans are also being granted liberally by way of financial help.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What are the steps which are taken to increase the area of cutlivation?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The Revenue Department by itself does not take very serious steps in the matter excepting the grant of agricultural loans. There is another matter in which the Revenue Department is engaged, i. e, in allowing areas which are not under cultivation—assigning lands for the purpose of cultivation. That will increase the area of cultivation. Agricultural loans are freely given. Other methods are followed by the Agricultural Department for increasing the yield.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know whether any loans have been given for purposes of improving the newly assigned lands?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I cannot say now. I must find out by looking into the various applications for agricultural loans whether they are for improving the old lands or new ones.

Trichur Munsiff's Court.

187. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether their attention has been called by the Chief Court regarding the inconvenience felt by the Munsiff's Court of Trichur and the litigant public by the retaining of the latrine in its present site in the District Court compound; and if so, with what result;

(2) whether the Health Officer had been consulted in putting another latrine contiguous to the one to which objection has been taken?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) Yes, by the Chief Court. The latrine has been repaired and arrangements made by the Municipality to clean the same twice a day.

(2) No.

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